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REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claim 2, 6, 11 and 13 have been rewritten in independent form. Claim 18 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 2-17 remain pending in the application.

Applicant notes that claim 2, rather than claim 18, is listed as being rejected in the Summary Sheet and that claims 3-18, rather than claims 2-17, are listed as being objected to in the Summary Sheet'.

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Davies et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,733,655). The rejection of claim 18 is most in view of the cancellation of the claim. Applicant is not conceding the correctness of the rejection.

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Douglas P. Mueller, Reg. No. 30,300, at (612) 455-3804.

Respectfully submitted,

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